



The ambassadors of goodwill who delivered the cookies, and the people who delivered the white poinsettias to the bereaved



The many who donated floral tributes in memory of loved ones (the gift box near the manger held their names and they were remembered during the liturgies throughout the Christmas season)



Our deacon and his wife, parish youth catechist, administrative assistant, collection counters, and parish custodians, who met the challenge of keeping the church so very warm and clean.



The parishioners for your many gestures of kindness, including all those special treats that were brought for the parish staff



The parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and visitors to our parish for your spirit of faith and goodwill and for the joy your presence brought to our Christmas liturgies

As we gather together around our Christmas tree we are happy to joyfully welcome our Lord, Jesus Christ, who brings hope to every twig so we can be a living Tree of Life for this coming year. Grateful for being a part, a twig, of our parish,

With prayer,
Fr. Rafal

PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS...IT'S TIME TO TALK:

Pornography is impacting children and teens at rates never before seen. By the age of 18, 90% of young people have viewed pornography on the internet, far too many are watching these violent and degrading images regularly; many are becoming addicted. Come and learn more about the issue, its impact on our children and how you can protect your children, grandchildren, students and all children. "Over 18" is a documentary that looks factually at the issue. To find parishes and dates where you can see this informative piece, go to www.hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/pornography-help. For more information contact Teresa Hartnett (Director of Family Ministry) at 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

POPE FRANCIS TO ATTEND WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES IN DUBLIN: The Diocese of Hamilton is planning a trip to the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, which takes place August 21-26, 2018. This international event is designed to be significant to people of all ages at all stages of life. Every keynote address and workshop will be based on Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*, or *The Joy of Love*. This is a family event with workshop streams for those 18 and older, 6 – 17 years, and day care for those 5 and younger. The Diocese of Hamilton has booked a block of rooms for anyone interested in attending, but registration for the conference portion and travel are to be booked by each individual participant. Conference registration can be found at <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/>. For more information or to book accommodation at our hotel, the Maldon Hotel Tallaght, go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/wmof-2018> or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2250 (Teresa Hartnett). Diocesan accommodation must be booked by mid-January, so contact us soon if you are interested.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
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lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com
www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com

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| ADMINISTRATOR: | Rev. Rafal Tomon |
| DEACON: | Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang |
| PARISH YOUTH CATECHIST: | Paula Rush |
| ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: | Bette Honsinger
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. |
| SUNDAY MASSES: | Saturday 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. Vietnamese Martyrs Community
Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I. |
| SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: | By appointment – please phone the parish office |
| SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: | Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon
Twenty minutes before weekday Masses
or by appointment |
| SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: | By appointment – please phone the parish office |
| BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS: | Last Sunday of each month after all Masses |
| ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: | Church door collections – last Sunday of each month |

Announced Mass intentions for January 8 to 14, 2018

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| Monday..... | 8:30 a.m..... | Dawn Jones & Mark Jones – Nevelle & Naomi de’Rozario |
| Tuesday | Luther Village | 10:00 a.m.....Celia Harbour – Angela Madappuli |
| | | 7:00 p.m.Special intention of Joan Voll – Vivian Rickert |
| Wednesday | 8:30 a.m..... | Edith Corrigan – Jack & Pat Hannenberg |
| Thursday | 7:00 p.m. | Fr. Angus Smith – Michael Bayer |
| Friday | 8:30 a.m..... | Clare McKee – Jack & Joan Cassidy |
| Saturday..... | 7:00 p.m. | Horst Ebi – Christa & Jerry Fischer |
| Sunday | 9:00 a.m..... | Living & deceased members of our parish |
| | | 11:00 a.m.....Special intention |

Christmas 2017

Offertory collection for Sunday, December 31, 2017: \$13,903.00

[Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.]

Monthly Budget Review as of December 31, 2017

Cumulative financial objective – 53 Weeks @ \$7,500		\$397,500.00
Weekly contributions (year to date).....	\$281,550.70	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date).....	<u>134,549.88</u>	<u>416,100.58</u>
Over (under) objective		\$18,600.58

ORNAMENTS FROM THE TREE OF LIFE: Those who had a child baptized or a loved one called to Eternal Life (and buried from Lourdes) in 2017 may pick up their angel or cross after any weekend Mass beginning January 13/14 in the work sacristy behind Our Lady of Lourdes' altar.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH: January begins a new year, a perfect time to reflect on your parenting role. Ask yourselves what you are doing well; what you might improve on and where you may need some supports. Assess whether you are spending enough quality and quantity time with your children because both matter. Reflect on whether you are providing a strong faith foundation and a strong connection to the Church community, since both have positive health and spiritual impacts. Now with a clearer vision, set some family goals for the coming year!

MULTICULTURAL MASS: The Diocese of Hamilton will be hosting our annual Multicultural Mass on Sunday, January 21 at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. This is sure to be a beautiful celebration. All are welcome to join us for the Mass and the social event which will take place in McNally Hall after the celebration. There will be performances by various ethnic groups, as well as a chance to sample some delicious foods from around the world.

BAPTISM: During the month of December, Alexander Dean Anthony Laws became a member of God's family in the sacrament of baptism.

SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP

OUR SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP will resume Tuesday, January 9, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., in the parish hall. All are welcome!



Your CWL Executive invites all members to an evening of interactive music and soup tasting "Part Deux"



On Tuesday, January 9 at 7:30 p.m. (after Mass)

please join us as Sarah Pearson teaches us about her Music Therapy Programs and their healing powers both in the hospitals as well as for ourselves.

Sarah is a registered psychotherapist of Ontario (RP), a music therapist accredited (MTA), educator, songwriter, public speaker, and musician based in Kitchener, Ontario.

After her interactive presentation everyone will be able to taste wonderful homemade soups and take home delicious recipes.

We look forward to seeing you.

Dear Parishioners,

At the vigil Mass at Christmas we say the opening prayer "O God who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for redemption . . .". And yes, it has been about 25 years when, through the initiative of Msgr. Edward Sheridan, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish began setting up the Tree of Life with its many angels and crosses, especially this year with a cross for our Fr. Ted who leads us in peace to our Lord. We are the living branches of our Tree of Life, our parish, connected together though facing different directions, bringing hope by working together. Every person, every twig, visible or hidden, matters and makes a difference, makes our tree alive. Thank you to all. To the following a very special thank you:



The ministers of the Word, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers, ministers of hospitality (ushers)



The music ministry – organists, choirs, family choirs, cantors, musicians



The official 25th "Tree Cutters" who cut the tree for our "Tree of Life" and brought it into the church, without "breaking" a single twig. And the person who donated the tree from her property.



The craftsman who made the angels and crosses, and the artist who painted them



The work crew who helped prepare the church on Sunday, December 17 and those who will help take down the Christmas decorations this weekend



Those who prepared the beautiful nativity scene



Our parish catechist and the children who participated in the Christmas Eve Living Scripture, as well as all the volunteers who assisted



The support for the Notre Dame Children Outreach in Kenya. This year's total donation for the sisters, which includes the Bowing Angel, amounted to \$15,603.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society and all who generously supported the Society through donations, in particular, the 2 toonies and a loonie collection which amounted to \$7,886. The Waterloo Knights of Columbus for their support of our St. Vincent de Paul Society by providing toys for children in need



The many bakers who provided an abundance of delicious cookies for our shut-ins and the residents of a nearby assisted-living residence for men, and those who prepared the tins for delivery

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